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March 25, 2021

- To: Representative Carlos Mariani, Chair, Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Committee and members
- Re: House File 1535 (Wolgamott) Correctional officer disciplinary proceedings modified

Dear Chair Mariani and committee members:

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) represents Minnesota's 10,000+ public safety officials who hold active law enforcement licenses in the state of Minnesota. Members include police officers, correctional officers, dispatchers, and firefighters. The MPPOA is the largest association representing public safety professionals in the State of Minnesota.

The MPPOA supports House File 1535 (Wolgamott). This bill is an overdue measure that would put correctional officers in an equal position with peace officers regarding the procedures followed in cases of potential disciplinary action. Correctional officers face many of the same situations faced by peace officers and they should have the same procedural fairness. These procedural rules are common sense, fair, and efficient provisions that most people would agree with. Several agencies already use the peace officer rules. Lastly, this does not apply to investigations of possible criminal conduct. We urge your support for House File 1535.

Sincerely,

Brian Peters Executive Director Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association



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